Justice and The City: (re)Examining the Past to Create the Future

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning

55th Annual ACSP Conference
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Local Co-Hosts: Texas Southern University & Texas A&M University
ACSP AWARDS

Paul Davidoff Book Award

The Paul Davidoff Award is presented by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) to honor the memory of a revered and respected activist academic in the field of modern city planning. Paul Davidoff was an unyielding force for justice and equity in planning. He viewed planning as a process to address a wide range of societal problems and to improve conditions for all people. He challenged academics and professionals alike to find ways to promote participatory planning and positive social change; to overcome poverty and racism, and to reduce disparities in society. Before his untimely death in 1984, he implemented major contributions to the field as an educator, practitioner, and intellectual. His influence in planning extends to this day, and his work constitutes a watershed in the theory and practice of community planning.

The Paul Davidoff Award was established three decades ago by ACSP and is one of the most prestigious honors in the academic planning field. It recognizes an outstanding book publication promoting participatory planning and positive social change, opposing poverty and racism as factors in society, and seeking ways to reduce disparities between rich and poor; white and black; men and women. The award is granted biennially to the publication that most reflects Davidoff's commitments and values.

2015 Winner

DEGRADED WORK: THE STRUGGLE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LABOR MARKET
Marc Doussard [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign]

Marc Doussard's *Degraded Work: The Struggle at the Bottom of the Labor Market* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013) provides a compelling interview-based account of the complex socio-economics of food retailers and construction day laborers in Chicago, revealing the forces behind low wages and “degraded work” in sectors that are not easily studied by large datasets. The book is well situated in larger issues of de-industrialization, immigration, and undocumented labor and helps to humanize the dynamics of these processes. The Committee particularly appreciated the effort of the author to propose both policy and organizing efforts that might improve the situation, making it a most worthy winner of the Davidoff Award.

Marc Doussard is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Illinois at Champaign. His research focuses on low-wage labor markets and inclusive economic development. He has worked with and for community and economic development organizations since 1999. In addition to Degraded Work, he is the co-author of *Fast Food, Poverty Wages: The Public Cost of Low-Wage Jobs in the Fast Food Industry*, and conducts ongoing research on wage-theft laws, community-labor coalitions outside of large cities, and the national fast food organizing campaign. He received his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and holds a B.A. from Columbia College.
ACSP AWARDS

2015 Co-Honorable Mention
MAKING A GLOBAL IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORHOOD: BROOKLYN’S SUNSET PARK
Tarry Hum [Queens College]

Tarry Hum’s book, Making a Global Immigrant Neighborhood: Brooklyn’s Sunset Park (Temple University Press, 2014) explores the complex evolution of an Asian and Latino immigrant neighborhood, emphasizing the possibilities for new coalitions. The Committee views this well-written book as challenging previous descriptions of immigration, race and community building by linking our understanding of transnational, global economic processes to community mobilization. By showing the interrelationships among migrant civil society, street vendors, ethnic banks, gentrification, and environmental injustice, the book offers inspiring articulations of Paul Davidoff’s spirit.

Tarry Hum is a Professor in the Department of Urban Studies at Queens College and the Graduate Center’s Environmental Psychology Doctoral Program at the City University of New York. She has a Masters in City Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. in Urban Planning from UCLA’s Luskin School of Public Affairs. She is currently working on a book manuscript titled, “The Asian Century”: Chinese Transnational Capital and City Building in Immigrant New York.

2015 Co-Honorable Mention
NEIGHBORHOOD AS REFUGE: COMMUNITY RECONSTRUCTION, PLACE REMAKING, AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE CITY
Isabelle Anguelovski [Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona]

Isabelle Anguelovski’s book Neighborhood as Refuge: Community Reconstruction, Place Remaking, and Environmental Justice in the City (MIT Press 2014) shows how community activists in three historically marginalized neighborhoods – Dudley (Boston), Cayo Hueso (Havana), and Casc Antic (Barcelona) – organized to improve the local environmental quality and address residents’ environmental trauma, fear of erasure, and loss. The book argues that projects such as community-based urban farms, green streets, parks, playgrounds, or green housing serve as tools to help create safe havens, foster a renewed sense of place for residents, positively affect their individual and collective identity, and contribute to long-term engagement in community revitalization and political activism. The Davidoff Award committee praised the book for its engagement with issues of poverty, inequality and social justice that were central to Paul Davidoff’s work. As an encouraging saga about a successful, place-specific planning process, this book explains the politics of participation in ways that hold great interest to advocate planners.

Dr. Isabelle Anguelovski is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for Environmental Science and Technology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, with degrees in urban and environmental planning (PhD, MIT, 2011), non-profit management (Harvard University, 2004), and international development (Université de Paris I-Sorbonne, 2001). Her research is situated at the intersection of urban planning and policy, social inequality, and development studies, and her projects examine the extent to which urban plans and policy decisions contribute to more just, resilient, healthy, and sustainable cities, and how community groups in distressed neighborhoods contest the existence, creation, or exacerbation of environmental inequities as a result of urban (re)development processes and policies.

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